



PUBLIC DISCLOSURE COMMISSION

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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PDC FINES LOCAL CANDIDATE AND ELECTED OFFICIALS **FOR FILING REPORTS LATE**

Olympia – Chair of the Public Disclosure Commission, Mike Connelly, issued civil penalties after finding a local candidate and three elected officials in violation of state Public Disclosure laws during brief enforcement hearings held today in Olympia.

Michel Smith, a 25th Legislative District candidate for State Representative, was found in violation of state law for failing to timely file campaign finance reports during her 2004 campaign. Smith was fined \$200 for failing to timely file Contribution and Expenditure Summary Reports that were due 21 and 7 days before the 2004 Primary Election.

In a separate hearing, Chairman Connelly found three Pierce County officials had not timely filed an annual Personal Financial Affairs Statement (Form F-1). State law requires elected officials and certain state appointed officials to file an F-1 with the Public Disclosure Commission by April 15th reporting financial activity for the preceding year.

Connelly stressed the importance of filing reports that disclose personal financial interests and holdings.

“These reports afford the public tangible proof that officials are acting in the public interest and not for their private gain,” Connelly said.

A letter reminding each official of his or her obligation to file was sent during the first week of May 2005. On June 4, a second letter with an opportunity to pay a civil penalty and forego an enforcement hearing was sent.

Government officials from Pierce County Washington who were assessed a penalty at the brief enforcement hearing were:

Phillip Deleo, City Council Member for the City of Bonney Lake, was found in violation and assessed a civil penalty of \$150.

Barry Johnson, City Council Member for the City of Fife, was found in violation and assessed a civil penalty of \$150.

Victoria Woodards, Commissioner for the Metropolitan Park District of Tacoma, was found in violation and assessed a civil penalty of \$150.

Officials found in violation at the hearing will have an opportunity to ask the full, five-member Commission to review the action taken by the Chair.

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